CLAIMS

1.   A method of providing an estimate of the location of a first device comprising the steps of determining the location of a separately housed, second device located near to the first device; providing the location of the second device to the first device; and using the location of the second device as an estimate of the location of the first device, wherein the second device is arranged to perform a function based on its location other than providing its location as an estimate of the location of the first device.

2.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the location of the second device is provided to the first device using a physical communications link.

3.   A method according to claim 2 wherein the physical communications link is a cable joining the first and second devices.

4.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the location of the second device is provided to the first device using a wireless communications link.

5.   A method of providing an estimate of the location of a first device comprising the steps of determining the location of a separately housed, second device located near to the first device; providing the location of the second device to the first device; and using the location of the second device as an estimate of the location of the first device, wherein the location of the second device is provided to the first device using a wireless communications link.

6.   A method according to claim 4 or claim 5 wherein the wireless communications link is a Bluetooth link.

7.   A method according to any of the preceding claims wherein the second device comprises a GPS receiver.

8.   A method according to any of the preceding claims further comprising the step of sending a request from the first device to the second device that the second device provide its location to the first device.

9.   A method according to claim 8 wherein the first device comprises location determining means to determine its location; and wherein the request is sent when the location determining means is inoperative.

10.   A method according to claim 9 wherein the request is sent only when the location determining means is inoperative.

11.   A method of providing an estimate of the location of a device substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

12.   The combination of first and second separately housed devices for estimating of the location of the first device by a method according to any of the preceding claims.

13.   The combination of first and second separately housed devices for estimating of the location of the first device; wherein the second device comprises location determining means for determining the location of the second device and providing the location to the first device; wherein the first device uses the location of the second device as an estimate of its location; and wherein the second device is arranged to perform a function based on its location other than providing its location as an estimate of the location of the first device.

14.   A combination according to claim 13 wherein the location of the second device is provided to the first device using a physical communications link.

15.   A combination according to claim 14 wherein the physical communications link is a cable joining the first and second devices.

16.   A combination according to claim 15 wherein the location of the second device is provided to the first device using a wireless communications link.

17.   The combination of first and second separately housed devices for estimating of the location of the first device; wherein the second device comprises location determining means for determining the location of the second device and providing the location to the first device; wherein the first device uses the location of the second device as an estimate of its location; and wherein the location of the second device is provided to the first device using a wireless communications link.

18.   A combination according to claim 16 or claim 17 wherein the wireless communications link is a Bluetooth link.

19.   A combination according to any of claims 12 to 18 wherein the second device comprises a GPS receiver.

20.   A combination according to any of claims 12 to 19 wherein the first device is arranged to send a request to the second device that the second device provide its location to the first device.

21.   A combination according to claim 20 wherein the first device comprises location determining means to determine its location; and wherein the request is sent when the location determining means is inoperative.

22.   A combination according to claim 21 wherein the request is sent only when the location determining means is inoperative.

23. A combination of first and second separately housed devices according to claims 12 to 22 wherein the first and second devices are interchangeable such that they may reciprocate assistance provided by the other.

24. The combination of first and second separately housed devices for estimating of the location of the first device substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

25. A device comprising location determining means to determine its location and a receiver for receiving location information from a source external to the device, wherein, in use, the device uses received location information as an estimate of its own location.

26. A device according to claims 24 further comprising a transmitter wherein the device is arranged to send a request for location information to a recipient external to the device when the location determining means is inoperative.

27. A device according to claims 24 or claim 25 wherein the location determining means is a GPS receiver.

28. A device according to any of claims 24 to 26 wherein the receiver is for a wireless communications link.

29. A device comprising a receiver for a wireless communications link for receiving location information wherein, in use, the device uses received location information as an estimate of its own location.

30. A device according to claims 27 and 28 wherein the wireless communications link is a Bluetooth link.

31.   A device comprises location determining means for determining the location of the device and a transmitter for sending information relating to its location to a recipient external to the device, wherein the device is arranged to perform a function based on its location other than sending location information to a recipient external to the device.

32.   A device according to claim 30 wherein the transmitter for sending location information to a recipient external to the device is for a wireless communications link.

33.   A device according to claim 30 or claim 31 wherein the wireless communications link is a Bluetooth link.

34.   A device according to any of claims 30 to 32 wherein the location determining means is a GPS receiver.

35.   A device according to any of claims 30 to 33 wherein the device is arranged to send information relating to its location to a recipient external to the device upon receiving an appropriate request from external to the device.

36.   A method of providing an estimate of the location of a first device comprising the steps of determining the location of a separately housed, second device; providing the location of the second device to a third device, separately housed from the first and second devices; providing the determined location of the second device from the third device to the first device; and using the determined location of the second device provided by the third device as an estimate of the location of the first device.

37.   A method according to claim 36 wherein the location of the second device is provided from the second device to the third device using a wireless communications link.

38.   A method according to claim 36 or 37 wherein the location of the second device is provided from the third device to the first device using a wireless communications link.

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39.   A method according to claims 36 to 38 wherein the location of the second device is recorded in the third device.